



PATENT
8003-1016-1

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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroshi YAMANE et al.

Conf. 5695

Application No. 10/766,910

Group 1725

Filed January 30, 2004

Examiner Len Tran

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTINUOUS
CASTING OF METALS

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 13, 2006

Sir:

This is a "Request for Continued Examination" under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, the provisions of which do not apply to:

(1) A provisional application; (2) An application for a utility or plant patent filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) before June 8, 1995; (3) An international application filed under 35 U.S.C. §363 before June 8, 1995; (4) An application for a design patent; or (5) A patent under reexamination.

☒ This Request for Continued Examination is being filed prior to the earliest of:

(1) Payment of the issue fee, unless a petition under §1.313 is granted; (2) Abandonment of the application; or (3) The filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit under 35 U.S.C. § 141, or the commencement of civil action under 35 U.S.C. §§ 145 or 146, unless the appeal or civil action is terminated.

☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via facsimile.

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☒ **Submission Required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:**

Enter as part of the present submission:

☐ An After Final Amendment previously filed on
, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 but unentered, in the
present application.

☐ Arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief
previously filed on .

☒ A Reply, attached hereto. Claim fee(s) are
calculated as set forth below:

| | TOTAL NUMBER OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY FILED | TOTAL NUMBER OF CLAIMS BEING FILED HEREWITH | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE | FEE |
|-----------------------|---|---|-----------------|----------|--------|
| Total Claims | | | | x\$50 = | \$0.00 |
| Independent Claims | | | | x\$200 = | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL CLAIM FEE(S) | | | | | \$0.00 |

☐ An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and
PTO-1449 form(s) is/are attached hereto for the
Examiner's consideration.

☐ Other:

☒ **Fees**

The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) as required by
37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed, is enclosed
herewith:

☐ \$395.00 - small entity

☒ \$790.00 - large entity

☐ The applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for an extension of
() month(s) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and
1.136(a). The fee has been calculated as shown below:

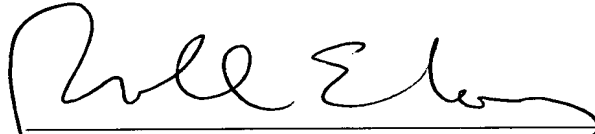
☐ NO extensions of time have been previously obtained
in the prior application. Thus, a fee of \$0.00 is
required for the full period of the above-requested
extension of time.

- ☐ An extension of () month(s) was previously requested and paid for on in the instant application. Thus, a fee of \$0.00 is required to obtain an additional () month(s) extension.
- ☒ Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$790.00 for the applicable filing fee, additional claims fee, and/or extension fees.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 25-0120 in the amount of \$0.00. A triplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



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Attachments: amendment, check